CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIA CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY CONFIDENT PART

INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY

China

DATE OF

INFORMATION

SUBJECT

Economic - Steel production

HOW **PUBLISHED**

Semimonthly periodical

WHERE

PUBLISHED

Peiping

NO. OF PAGES 1

DATE DIST. 24 Jul 1951

1950

DATE

PUBLISHED

10 Nov 1950

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE

Chinese

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SOURCE

Esin Kuan-ch'a (New Observer), Vol I, No 10, 1950.

NEW RECORD OF CHUNGKING STEEL PLANT

Ni Tzu-ch'ung

As a result of the study of advanced Soviet methods by workers and employees and their rising enthusiasm in work, the No 2 open-hearth furnace in a Chungking steel plant has written a glorious page in the history of China's steel production. The plant produced 3,109.838 tons of steel in its 17th production schedule, covering a period of 99 days from, 26 June to 2 October 1950, with 283 operations.

Costs were greatly decreased as a result of the lengthened smelting time of the No 2 furnace. For instance, coal consumption dropped to 0.3392 ton per ton of steel from the previous figure of 0.4567. Repair entailed fireproof material valued at only 152,200 yuan in comparison with previous expenditures of 450,000 yean. Moreover, the quality of steel became as good as SAE standards would require. For these advances, we should thank the Soviet hero, Mikhaylov, who taught us a better method.

At the end of June 1950, when the No 2 open-hearth furnace started operations, all workers and employees of the plant organized to study the article "Soviet Russian Steel Expert Mikhaylov," published in the Chungking Hsin-hua Jih-pao.

In the earlier period after the liberation, the workers welcomed the 2 May contest. But the three steel processing shifts operated the furnace at such high temperatures that the furnace was damaged. Consequently, the production goals for May and June were not met. Such a failure was in sharp contrast to Mikhaylov's instructions.

Several group meetings were held in which the three supervisors initiated self-criticism and discussion sessions. A better shift regulation was introduced and the assignment of duty was also improved. Consequently, the charging time was reduced from 2 hours 20 minutes to one hour 20 minutes, and the rate of operation was increased from two furnace charges daily to seven furnace charges in 2 days, sometimes reaching as high as four furrace charges a day.

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